Penny Black celebrates 175th anniversary
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The Penny Black, the world's oldest stamp, is celebrating its 175th anniversary. But collectors – and more hard-nosed investors – have cause to celebrate too. Increasing demand from the burgeoning middle classes in China and other emerging economies has seen the price of rare stamps soar.

Prices have almost tripled over the past ten years, rising at a compound annual rate of 11.4 per cent, according to stamps dealer Stanley Gibbons Investment. Depending on its condition and whether it is sold in a block of stamps, unused Penny Blacks, which feature an image of Queen Victoria, will sell for anything from £350 to £1 million.

There are more than 1million Penny Blacks in the world today.

Article & Photo courtesy Daily Mail